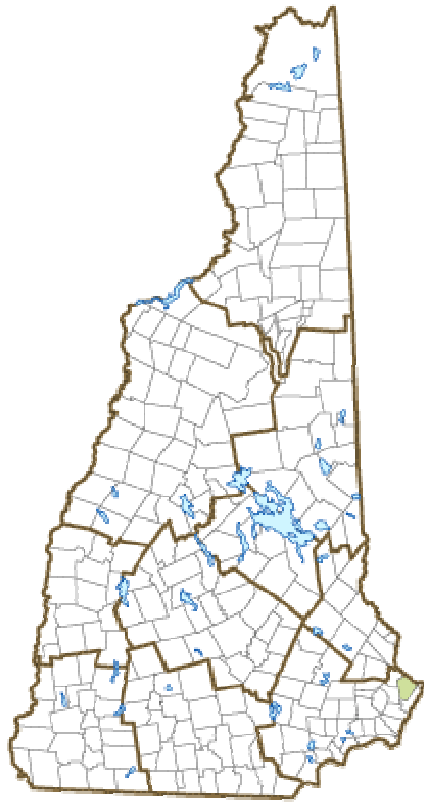


# Portsmouth, NH



## Community Contact

**Portsmouth Economic Development Commission**  
**Nancy Carmer, Economic Development Program Manager**  
**1 Junkins Avenue**  
**Portsmouth, NH 03801**

## Telephone

**(603) 610-7220**

## Fax

**(603) 427-1593**

## E-mail

**[nmcarmer@cityofportsmouth.com](mailto:nmcarmer@cityofportsmouth.com)**

## Web Site

**<http://cityofportsmouth.com>**

## Municipal Office Hours

**Monday, 8 am - 6 pm, Tuesday through Thursday, 8 am - 4:30 pm,  
 Friday, 8 am - 1 pm**

## County

**Rockingham**

## Labor Market Area

**Portsmouth, NH-ME Metropolitan NECTA**

## Tourism Region

**Seacoast**

## Planning Commission

**Rockingham**

## Regional Development

**Coastal Economic Development Corp.**

## Election Districts

### US Congress

**District 1 (All Wards)**

### Executive Council

**District 3 (All Wards)**

### State Senate

**District 21 (All Wards)**

### State Representative

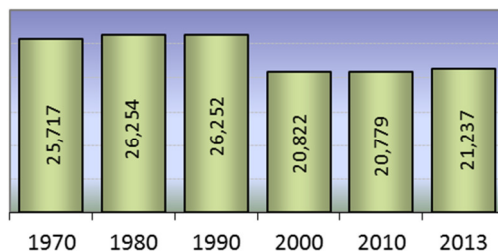
**Rockingham County Districts 25, 30 (Ward 1) 26, 30 (Ward 2) 27,  
 31 (Ward 3) 28, 30 (Ward 4) 29,30 (Ward 5)**

## Incorporated: 1631

**Origin:** This territory was a part of the original land grant to John Mason and Francisco Gorges in 1622. A township grant was issued by the council of Plymouth (MA) in 1631 which covered what is now Portsmouth and the harbor, Greenland, Rye, New Castle, and Newington. First called Piscataqua, the settlement became known as Strawberry Banke because of the wild strawberries that were found there. The name Portsmouth was adopted in 1653 to honor John Mason, Captain of the Port in Portsmouth, England, and because it was a good harbor situated at the river's mouth. Already an important center of trade and shipping, Portsmouth became capitol of the province of New Hampshire in 1679, and was incorporated as a city in 1849.

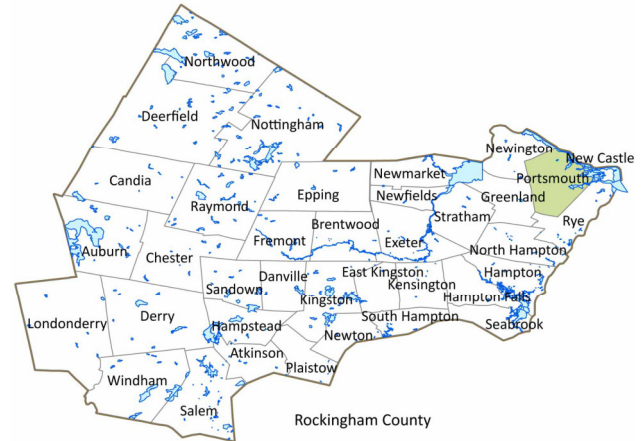
**Villages and Place Names:** Atlantic Heights, Christian Shore, Creek Area, Elwyn Park, Meadowbrook, Pannaway Manor, Portsmouth Plains, Haymarket Square, Sagamore Hill, Strawberry Banke, the Woodlands

## Population, Year of the First Census Taken: 4,720 residents in 1790



**Population Trends:** Population change decreased for Portsmouth by 5,663 over 53 years, from 26,900 in 1960 down to 21,237 in 2013. The largest decennial percent change was a 2 percent increase between 1970 and 1980; population declined by 21 percent between 1990 and 2000. The 2013 Census estimate for Portsmouth was 21,237 residents, which ranked 13th among New Hampshire's incorporated cities and towns.

**Population Density and Land Area, 2013 (US Census Bureau):** 1,354.4 persons per square mile of land area, the third highest among the cities and towns. Portsmouth contains 15.7 square miles of land area and 1.1 square miles of inland water area.



MUNICIPAL SERVICES			
Type of Government		City Manager & Council	
Budget: Municipal Appropriations, 2015		\$55,666,366	
Budget: School Appropriations, 2014		\$40,975,396	
Zoning Ordinance		1927/05	
Master Plan		2005	
Capital Improvement Plan		Yes	
Industrial Plans Reviewed By		Planning Department	
Boards and Commissions			
Elected:	City Council; School; Police		
Appointed:	Planning; Conservation; Library; Economic Development; Historic District; Zoning		
Public Library	Portsmouth Athenaeum; Portsmouth Public		
EMERGENCY SERVICES			
Police Department		Full-time	
Fire Department		Municipal	
Emergency Medical Service		Full & part-time	
Nearest Hospital(s)		Distance	Staffed Beds
Portsmouth Regional, Portsmouth		Local	209
UTILITIES			
Electric Supplier		Eversource Energy	
Natural Gas Supplier		Unitil	
Water Supplier		Portsmouth Water Department	
Sanitation		Municipal	
Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant		Yes	
Solid Waste Disposal			
Curbside Trash Pickup		Municipal	
Pay-As-You-Throw Program		No	
Recycling Program		Mandatory	
Telephone Company		Fairpoint	
Cellular Telephone Access		Yes	
Cable Television Access		Yes	
Public Access Television Station		Yes	
High Speed Internet Service:	Business	Yes	
	Residential	Yes	
PROPERTY TAXES		(NH Dept. of Revenue Administration)	
2013 Total Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		\$17.91	
2013 Equalization Ratio		91.9	
2013 Full Value Tax Rate (per \$1000 of value)		\$16.11	
2013 Percent of Local Assessed Valuation by Property Type			
Residential Land and Buildings		56.1%	
Commercial Land and Buildings		38.9%	
Public Utilities, Current Use, and Other		5.0%	
HOUSING		(ACS 2009-2013)	
Total Housing Units		11,001	
Single-Family Units, Detached or Attached		5,295	
Units in Multiple-Family Structures:			
Two to Four Units in Structure		2,049	
Five or More Units in Structure		3,301	
Mobile Homes and Other Housing Units		356	

DEMOGRAPHICS		(US Census Bureau)	
Total Population		Community	County
2013	21,237		297,728
2010	20,779		295,223
2000	20,822		278,748
1990	26,252		246,744
1980	26,254		190,345
1970	25,717		138,951
Demographics, American Community Survey (ACS) 2009-2013			
Population by Gender			
Male	10,519	Female	10,718
Population by Age Group			
Under age 5			1,180
Age 5 to 19			2,708
Age 20 to 34			5,071
Age 35 to 54			6,121
Age 55 to 64			2,664
Age 65 and over			3,493
Median Age			41.1 years
Educational Attainment, population 25 years and over			
High school graduate or higher			95.6%
Bachelor's degree or higher			53.2%
INCOME, INFLATION ADJUSTED \$		(ACS 2009-2013)	
Per capita income			\$39,838
Median family income			\$89,400
Median household income			\$64,577
Median Earnings, full-time, year-round workers			
Male			\$58,693
Female			\$45,287
Individuals below the poverty level			8.7%
LABOR FORCE		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average	2003		2013
Civilian labor force	13,113		14,327
Employed	12,584		13,742
Unemployed	529		585
Unemployment rate	4.0%		4.1%
EMPLOYMENT & WAGES		(NHES – ELMI)	
Annual Average Covered Employment	2003		2013
Goods Producing Industries			
Average Employment	2,964		2,410
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 900		\$1,367
Service Providing Industries			
Average Employment	22,538		25,628
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 837		\$1,094
Total Private Industry			
Average Employment	25,502		28,038
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 844		\$1,117
Government (Federal, State, and Local)			
Average Employment	1,786		1,847
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 811		\$ 975
Total, Private Industry plus Government			
Average Employment	27,288		29,885
Average Weekly Wage	\$ 842		\$1,109

**EDUCATION AND CHILD CARE**

Schools students attend: **Portsmouth operates grades K-12**  
 Career Technology Center(s): **Portsmouth Career-Tech Center #19**

District: **SAU 52**  
 Region: **19**

Educational Facilities (includes Charter Schools)	Elementary	Middle/Junior High	High School	Private/Parochial
Number of Schools	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
Grade Levels	<b>P K 1-5</b>	<b>6-8</b>	<b>9-12</b>	<b>P K 1-8</b>
Total Enrollment	<b>1,042</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>1,075</b>	<b>142</b>

Nearest Community College: **Great Bay**

Nearest Colleges or Universities: **University of NH**

2014 NH Licensed Child Care Facilities (DHHS-Bureau of Child Care Licensing)

Total Facilities: **20** Total Capacity: **1,337**

LARGEST BUSINESSES	PRODUCT/SERVICE	EMPLOYEES	ESTABLISHED
Portsmouth Consular Center, US Dept of State	Passport, visa services	1,459	
Liberty Mutual Insurance	Insurance services	1,013	1969
HCA Portsmouth Regional Hospital	Health care services	980	1987
City of Portsmouth	Municipal services	975	
Lonza Biologies	Contract pharmaceuticals	792	
John Hancock	Financial services	400	
Bottomline Technologies	Finance software	380	
Newmarket International	Event software	305	
Thermo Fisher	Analytical instruments & laboratory equipment	274	
Sprague Energy	Oil energy terminal	235	

**TRANSPORTATION** (*distances estimated from city/town hall*)

Road Access	US Routes	<b>1, 4</b>
	State Routes	<b>1A, 1B, 16, 33, 1 Bypass</b>
Nearest Interstate, Exit		<b>I-95, Exits 3 - 7</b>
Distance		<b>Local access</b>
Railroad		<b>Guilford Rail Service</b>
Public Transportation		<b>COAST; Wildcat Transit</b>
Nearest Public Use Airport, General Aviation		
<b>Pease International</b>	Runway	<b>11,321 ft. asphalt/conc</b>
Lighted? <b>Yes</b>	Navigation Aids?	<b>Yes</b>
Nearest Airport with Scheduled Service		
<b>Manchester-Boston Regional</b>	Distance	<b>48 miles</b>
Number of Passenger Airlines Serving Airport		<b>4</b>
Driving distance to select cities:		
Manchester, NH		<b>45 miles</b>
Portland, Maine		<b>51 miles</b>
Boston, Mass.		<b>57 miles</b>
New York City, NY		<b>270 miles</b>
Montreal, Quebec		<b>301 miles</b>

**COMMUTING TO WORK** (*ACS 2009-2013*)

Workers 16 years and over	
Drove alone, car/truck/van	<b>86.8%</b>
Carpooled, car/truck/van	<b>7.5%</b>
Public transportation	<b>0.4%</b>
Walked	<b>1.0%</b>
Other means	<b>0.6%</b>
Worked at home	<b>3.6%</b>
Mean Travel Time to Work	<b>31.1 minutes</b>

**Percent of Working Residents: ACS 2009-2013**

Working in community of residence	<b>22.2</b>
Commuting to another NH community	<b>48.4</b>
Commuting out-of-state	<b>29.4</b>

**RECREATION, ATTRACTIONS, AND EVENTS**

<b>X</b>	Municipal Parks
<b>X</b>	YMCA/YWCA
	Boys Club/Girls Club
<b>X</b>	Golf Courses
<b>X</b>	Swimming: Indoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Swimming: Outdoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Tennis Courts: Indoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Tennis Courts: Outdoor Facility
	Ice Skating Rink: Indoor Facility
<b>X</b>	Bowling Facilities
<b>X</b>	Museums
<b>X</b>	Cinemas
<b>X</b>	Performing Arts Facilities
<b>X</b>	Tourist Attractions
<b>X</b>	Youth Organizations (i.e., Scouts, 4-H)
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Baseball
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Soccer
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Football
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Basketball
<b>X</b>	Youth Sports: Hockey
	Campgrounds
<b>X</b>	Fishing/Hunting
<b>X</b>	Boating/Marinas
	Snowmobile Trails
<b>X</b>	Bicycle Trails
<b>X</b>	Cross Country Skiing
<b>X</b>	Beach or Waterfront Recreation Area
<b>X</b>	Overnight or Day Camps

Nearest Ski Area(s): **Gunstock**

Other: **Strawbery Banke; Harbor & Isles of Shoals Cruises; Historic Homes; Fish Pier; Trolley; Sailing; Kayaking; Music Festival; Shopping**